training programme at Hyderabad. An expenditure of Rs. 7217/- was incurred by the bank for the journey undertaken by the AGM. The said air journey was undertaken by the AGM as per his entitlement, by the available air route. While there appear to be no specific instructions, on the subject, issued by the RBI, the official complied with the guidelines/instructions issued by the bank from time to time under Regulation 41 of the State Bank of Indore (Officers.) Service Regulations, 1979.

Pension scheme for the employees of LIC and GIC

7735. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Insurance employees and officers have been agitating for implementation of agreed conclusions in respect of the introduction of Pension Scheme for the employees and officers of LIC and GIC;

(b) whether Government have cleared the said agreement;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Pension Scheme on similar lines has already been cleared in the banking sector and has been notified by the banks;

(e) if so, the reasons for which no such steps have been taken for the Insurance Industry; and

(f) the reasons for which no steps are being taken for Insurance Sector in the matter of wage revision when wage negotiations are in progress in the public undertaings and wage revision has been settled in the Banking Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Pension Scheme for the insurance employees has been cleared by the Government and the Pension Rules are being framed.

(d) and (e) A Scheme for providing pension to bank employees in lieu of Contributory Provident Fund has been formulated; however, the scheme is not yet operational.

(f) The Indian Banks Association (IBA) and representatives of Workmen's union in banks have signed an agreement on 14 2.95 for wage revision. However, negotiations for wage revision for Officers are still in progress.

Wage negotiations for employees of insurance industry can start only after the financial impact of Pension Scheme and one additional increment, sanctioned to insurance employees for cooperating in computerisation, is known.

Minimum Balance Limit in Saving Bank and Current Account

7736. SHRI K R. MALKANI:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nationalised banks have decided to require savings bank and current account holders to retain a minimum of Rs. 1000 (against Rs. 250/- presently) in their bank account if they operate through cheques;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether this would seriously inconvenience millions of indigent account holders; and

(d) whether Government would consider advising these banks to maintain status quo in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (d) Indian Banks' Association (IBA) have reported that there is no uniformity amongst banks about the